

HONORING GORDON C. BAXTER

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 24, 2022*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Gordon C. Baxter, a World War II Veteran and Career Fireman of Geneva, New York. Gordon passed away on March 17, 2022, at the age of 95, and it is only fitting that today we remember him for his enduring dedication to his country and community.

Gordon was a lifelong resident of Geneva, New York. He graduated from Geneva High School in 1944 and joined the Army on May 1, 1944. In August of 1945, Gordon was assigned to the Philippine Islands and returned to the United States in January of 1946. Gordon was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon, and World War II Victory Ribbon in recognition of his service to our country. He was Honorably Discharged in May of 1946 and went on to study at the Rochester Institute of Technology for two years.

Gordon's commitment to the community was an inspiration. He worked for the City of Geneva as a Career Fireman from which he retired after 25 years of dedicated service. Gordon was a proud member of the Hydrant Hose Company Number 1, where he held several offices over his tenure. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 396 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Above all, Gordon was a family man. I have always been inspired by the hard work and kindness of the Baxter family and I appreciate Gordon's service to our country and to our community. He will always be remembered, as his legacy will live on forever through his family and friends.

Given the above, I ask that this legislative body pause in its deliberations and join me to honor Gordon C. Baxter for his lifelong commitment to service.

CONGRATULATING WASHINGTON  
HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 24, 2022*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, today I congratulate the Washington High School Choir for their prestigious selection to perform at the 100th anniversary celebration of the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial. As the only choir selected from Missouri, it is truly an honor to represent such hard-working and dedicated students. Under the direction of Ms. Jessie Patterson, the Washington students will be experiencing a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I could not be prouder to represent them. Missouri is lucky to be represented by the WHS Choir.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF KEY WEST**HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 24, 2022*

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Key West, Florida. The island's rich history and culture has made it an exquisite destination for millions around the world and in our great nation. Throughout the last 200 years, Key West has remained resilient and has always taken pride in its early entrepreneurship, labor force, and culture.

What is now Key West was originally incorporated as Thompson's Island. Early on, Key West was designated a Port of Entry. Within a few years, it transformed into an active city, attracting merchants, shipbuilders, politicians, and others from all over that were in pursuit of success. In the 1830s the wrecking industry expanded and became the main trade for the island.

During the mid-nineteenth century migration on the island also increased. Many Bahamians relocated to Key West and specialized in shipbuilding, fishing, sponging, and other maritime industries that were expanding at the time. Due to the expansion of these industries, Key West's success remained steadfast.

Today, the island is known for its biodiversity, historic sites, beaches, tourism, and rich culture. I commemorate the contributions many over the course of the last two centuries have made to propel and expand Key West. Exploration, entrepreneurship, and hard work have allowed the island to be what it is today—a unique treasure in our state.

It is an honor to join the South Florida and Conch community in celebrating this grand milestone. Key West has played a significant role in our nation's history and continues to exemplify the best of our great state today. Happy 200th anniversary Key West. Congratulations to all of those who have contributed to our island and have made it what it is today.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF HILTON GUAM RESORT  
& SPA**HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 24, 2022*

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hilton Guam Resort & Spa as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. I extend my sincere congratulations for their decades of outstanding service and commend them for their contributions as a leader in Guam's tourism industry.

Having opened its doors in February of 1972, Hilton Guam Resort & Spa was the first international 5-star hotel that arrived on our shores. As a pioneering force in the island's tourism history, the Guam Hilton meaningfully elevated the industry and catalyzed its emergence as one of this day's leading economic drivers. The growth they have accomplished over the years has directly improved the quality of life for the people of Guam, providing thousands of job opportunities, significantly re-

ducing resident household taxes, and facilitating greater connections with a diverse global population. The hotel group has further demonstrated their steadfast commitment to our community with stay offerings and employment prospects uniquely available to residents amid the challenges of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Now a major tourist destination and melting pot of cultures, Guam proudly shares our Håfa Adai spirit and island hospitality with visitors from Japan, Korea, and other countries across the world. Madam Speaker, I express my deepest gratitude to the Hilton Guam Resort & Spa for their dedication to supporting the local public while fostering the island's relationships with international communities. Once again, I would like to congratulate them for over five decades of excellence in service, and may the future ahead be filled with continued success for both the Guam Hilton and our island as a whole.

IN HONOR OF HARINI KRISHNAN

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 24, 2022*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harini Krishnan who is being honored as the 2020 Hillsborough Schools' Citizen of the Year. Every year, the Associated Parents' Group of Hillsborough selects an individual who has made sustained and significant contributions to the Hillsborough community, especially to education and to the well-being of children. I couldn't think of a more deserving recipient than my friend Harini Krishnan. I have known her for many years and seen first-hand her tireless advocacy for others. With a big smile on her face, she takes on problems she identifies and any task handed to her. If you want to get something done, ask Harini.

Somehow, she finds enough hours in the day to serve a long list of organizations. In addition to being a parent volunteer for the Hillsborough City School District, she was the Parent Group President at West School and Crocker School, served on the board of the Associated Parents' Group, was the Community Campaign Co-Chair for the Hillsborough Schools Foundation, co-chaired the Hillsborough Family Fun Day Carnival, and continues to be the Neighborhood Lead for the Hillsborough Neighborhood Network. Harini is a champion for public schools and has also taken a leadership role in the San Mateo High School parent community. She has served as the Co-President of the Foundation Board for five years, is the Mock Trial Parent Liaison, and is a member of Music, Drama and Dance Boosters.

A resident of Hillsborough for 20 years, Harini is a true global citizen and applies her spirit and empathy to anything she does. She is an acclaimed Indian classical vocalist and lecturer. At Crocker, she taught a class on Indian history, culture and arts and she hosted Hillsborough Schools Foundation Pay-to-Play parties at her home where she taught people how to cook traditional Indian food and adorn saris. Her goal is not only to make people knowledgeable about Indian culture, but to inspire them to be global citizens and lifelong